

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Order Instituting Investigation into
Implementation of Assembly Bill 970 Regarding
the Identification of Electric Transmission and
Distribution Constraints, Actions to Resolve
Those Constraints, and Related Matters Affecting
the Reliability of Electric Supply.

Investigation 00-11-001
(Filed November 2, 2000)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING
REGARDING PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR DEVELOPING
RENEWABLES TRANSMISSION PLAN PER SB 1038**

Per my ruling dated December 20, 2002, I am distributing for comment a proposed schedule for the transmission-related requirements of Senate Bill (SB) 1038, to be addressed at the January 14, 2003 prehearing conference (PHC).

By way of background, SB 1078 creates the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) Program in California, under which the state will increase its electrical generation from renewable sources by at least 1% per year, until renewables comprise 20% of total investor-owned utility (IOU) procurement.¹ The Commission's Procurement rulemaking (Rulemaking (R.) 01-10-024) will be the vehicle for implementation of the RPS program, with the exception of transmission planning issues, which will be addressed in this proceeding with close coordination between the two dockets. Party comments on RPS transmission issues to be filed in early January in the Procurement docket may be

¹ Stats 2002, ch 516, Sher.

integrated with this proceeding's record, as appropriate. This proceeding will be the vehicle whereby the Commission fulfills its statutory mandate under SB 1038, a companion bill to the RPS legislation, to produce a transmission planning study to effectuate this 20% renewable goal.²

SB 1038 directs that the Commission's transmission study be informed by a renewable resource assessment study to be conducted by the California Energy Commission (CEC). Both studies are to be presented to the legislature by December 1, 2003. Clearly, the Commission will need to begin working with draft results of the CEC's efforts well in advance of the December completion date. I have been informed by Commission staff working on coordination issues with the CEC that draft assessment results will be available to us on July 1, 2003.

The CEC will be undertaking its resource assessment as part of its legislatively mandated Integrated Energy Policy Report (IEPR: CEC Docket No. 02-IEP-01), with renewable-specific results of that study published under separate cover to coordinate with the RPS implementation effort. Thus, there are three separate processes that must be coordinated over the course of 2003 in implementing the RPS and executing the necessary transmission analyses in this docket. The table below charts the proposed work schedule for these three proceedings in a manner that will result in the satisfaction of our multiple statutory requirements. This proposed schedule will be used as the starting point for discussion of renewable generation-related transmission issues at the January 14 PHC. It has been developed by Commission and CEC staff as part of their coordination efforts to address the legislative mandates.

² Stats 2002, ch 515, Sher. Section 16.

For the purpose of the schedule outlined below, “TRX” is used as the abbreviation for “transmission.”

Coordinated Calendar for RPS and Transmission Planning Dockets			
Date (2003)	Transmission OII: 00-11-001	CEC IEPR: 02-IEP-01	Procurement OIR: 01-10-024
January	Path 26 and Tehachapi assessments (or other high priority TRX issues identified at the PHC)		RPS implementation comments submitted, including TRX issues
February			Workshops/Whitepapers on RPS implementation; Draft implementation plan presented (non-TRX issues) 5/15
March			
April			
May		Staff/Party analysis and workshops on renewable resources	
June		Revised analyses completed	Comments on Draft due 6/5; Final RPS implementation plan 6/30
July	RPS TRX assessments	7/1 Draft resource assessment results available to TRX OII	Hearings and briefs on RPS implementation in IOU long-term planning
August		Draft IEPR issued and amended	
September			Proposed RPS Decision
October			
November			
December	12/1 RPS TRX submitted	12/1 RPS resource assessment submitted	RPS Resource and TRX assessments integrated into Procurement docket

Interested parties should comment on the schedule proposed above for transmission-related issues in their PHC statements, due on January 9, 2003.

Dated January 2, 2003, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ MEG GOTTSTEIN by CAROL BROWN

Meg Gottstein
Administrative Law Judge

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have by mail, and by electronic mail, to the parties to which an electronic mail address has been provided, this day served a true copy of the original attached Administrative Law Judge's Ruling Regarding Proposed Schedule for Developing Renewables Transmission Plan per SB 1038 on all parties of record in this proceeding or their attorneys of record. Per Administrative Law Judge Gottstein, this ruling has also been electronically served to the parties on the service list in Rulemaking 01-10-024.

Dated January 2, 2003, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ KE HUANG

Ke Huang

N O T I C E

Parties should notify the Process Office, Public Utilities Commission, 505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2000, San Francisco, CA 94102, of any change of address to ensure that they continue to receive documents. You must indicate the proceeding number on the service list on which your name appears.

The Commission's policy is to schedule hearings (meetings, workshops, etc.) in locations that are accessible to people with disabilities. To verify that a particular location is accessible, call: Calendar Clerk (415) 703-1203.

If specialized accommodations for the disabled are needed, e.g., sign language interpreters, those making the arrangements must call the Public Advisor at

I.00-11-001 MEG/hkr

(415) 703-2074, TTY 1-866-836-7825 or (415) 703-5282 at least three working days in advance of the event.